

Message Text

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10
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 0231

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, PFOR, IC, SW
SUBJECT: ARTICLE ON PRESENCE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN ICELAND

REF: REYKJAVIK 75 (DTG 141731Z JAN 76)

1. ARTICLE FROM STOCKHOLM MAGAZINE "AMBIO" BY FRANK BARNABY CITED IN REFTEL IS ESSENTIALLY A PESSIMISTIC REPORT ON THE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE SPREAD OF BOTH NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS. ICELAND IS MENTIONED, TOGETHER WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES, AS BEING LOCATION FOR U.S. TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS. PERTINENT SENTENCES READ AS FOLLOWS: "IN EUROPE ALONE, THERE ARE ABOUT 7,000 U.S. AND 3,500 SOVIET TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THE U.S. WEAPONS ARE WIDESPREAD -- IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM, ITALY, ICELAND, SPAIN, PORTUGAL, TURKEY, GREECE AND THE U.K."

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2. STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

(SIPRI), WHICH COLLABORATED IN PUBLISHING THIS ISSUE OF AMBIO, IS AN INDEPENDENT PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE WHICH FOCUSES ON DISARMAMENT QUESTIONS. ALTHOUGH THE INSTITUTE IS FINANCED BY THE SWEDISH PARLIAMENT, THE STAFF, THE GOVERNING BOARD, AND THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL ARE INTERNATIONAL.

3. WHILE SIPRI IS A RELATIVELY PRESITIGIOUS ORGANIZATION, WE HAVE DETECTED A PERSISTENT ANTI-U.S. BIAS. ALTHOUGH IT CRITICIZES BOTH U.S. AND U.S.S.R. PARTICIPATION IN NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL ARMS RACES, ITS CRITICISM TENDS TO FOCUS ON U.S. REASON OFTEN GIVEN BY BARNABY AND OTHER SIPRI OFFICIALS FOR THIS IMBALANCE IS THAT WHILE STATISTICS ON U.S. WEAPONS ARE READILY AVAILABLE, THOSE FROM SOVIET UNION ARE NOT, HENCE CRITICISM IS CONCENTRATED ON U.S. BARNABY ARTICLE IN CURRENT ISSUE OF AMBIO IS CASE IN POINT; AFTER DETAILED CRITICISM OF U.S. DEPLOYMENT OF STRATEGIC AND TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS, BARNABY ADDS: "AND THE SOVIET UNION HAS PROBABLY MANUFACTURED A SMILIAR NUMBER OF THESE WEAPONS -- WE DO NOT KNOW FOR CERTAIN BECAUSE REGRETTABLY, THE USSR DOES NOT PUBLICIZE THIS TYPE OF INFORMATION." FURTHERMORE, WE HAVE REPEATEDLY QUESTIONED STATISTICAL CRITERIA USED BY SIPRI TO CALCULATE AMOUNTS SPENT ON WEAPONS BY US AND USSR RESPECTIVELY.

4. WE DEFER TO DEPARTMENT ON EVALUATION SIPRI AND BARNABY, AS THEY ARE WELL KNOWN TO ACDA OFFICIALSN INCLUDING DIRECTOR FRED IKLE. HE IS A 48-YEAR OLD BRITISH NUCLEAR PHYSICIST WHO ALSO HAS A DEGREE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. BEFORE ASSUMING DIRECTORSHIP OF SIPRI IN 1971, HE WAS THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE PUGWASH CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND WORLD AFFAIRS, AND A RESEARCH PHYSICIST AT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.
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